## WA-II-717

## **Architectural Survey File**

This is the architectural survey file for this MIHP record. The survey file is organized reverse-chronological (that is, with the latest material on top). It contains all MIHP inventory forms, National Register nomination forms, determinations of eligibility (DOE) forms, and accompanying documentation such as photographs and maps.

Users should be aware that additional undigitized material about this property may be found in on-site architectural reports, copies of HABS/HAER or other documentation, drawings, and the "vertical files" at the MHT Library in Crownsville. The vertical files may include newspaper clippings, field notes, draft versions of forms and architectural reports, photographs, maps, and drawings. Researchers who need a thorough understanding of this property should plan to visit the MHT Library as part of their research project; look at the MHT web site (mht.maryland.gov) for details about how to make an appointment.

All material is property of the Maryland Historical Trust.

Last Updated: 03-12-2004

SITE NUMBER: WA-II-717

ADDRESS: 101 East Main Street, Sharpsburg, MD

OWNER/LOT NUMBER/ACCESS: Jeffrey T. Stouffer, 687/303, private

BUILDING DATE: mid-19th century (pre-1862)

101 East Main Street is a south-facing, vertically massed, symmetrical, two-and-a-half-story, stone and brick, freestanding, residential structure on a stone foundation. Set directly at the public-right-of-way on the town's main square, the building is the only example of Dutch Colonial Revival architecture in the town. It should be noted, however, that the Colonial Revival detailing is mostly likely a 20th-century addition to a 19th-century Greek Revival building. The 20th-century detailing includes the addition of the gambrel roof and front dormers, as well as the open porch that extends across the facade of the building. [Or is the entire building a late 18th-century example of Georgian architecture? -- the brick in the gambrel makes one suspicious] Although the first two stories of the building appear to be constructed of stone, the 1922 Sanborn (which could be incorrect) indicates that it is built of brick and encased in stone. The most imposing feature of the structure is its high side-gambrel, slate roof with its deep eaves, cornice, and heavy modillions. The roofline is broken by two, front-facing, gable dormers with stylized pediments and pilasters. The gambrel ends are of brick construction and bear two attic The raised entrance is located in the east bay and consists of a recessed, panel-and-light door flanked by glazed sidelights and topped by a tri-partite transom. Pilasters divide the door from the sidelights. A raised, hipped-roof open porch shields the front facade. It is composed on Tuscan columns set on brick piers that are connected by a slat railing. Windows have been replaced by double-hung, one-over-one lights. Each has a stone sills and lintels. The elevation facing Mechanic Street has a stone watertable and a three-bay eastlake porch shielding the side entrance which appears to be a modification to the original structure. The building also has a large two-story brick, gable-roof wing with similar window detailing. The wing has a two-story porch with slender tuscan columns. There is a concrete block barn and shed on the property.

According to the commemorative plaque on the building, this structure was standing in 1862. According to a 1962 walking tour brochure complied by Clifton L. Smith, the building served as a tavern during the war, selling whiskey to soldiers at \$5.00 a canteen. It is indicated on the 1877 map of the town as the Shay House with the following notation, "John Shay, Proprietor of 'Shay House'. Good accommodations at reasonable rates. Public Square." The Banner history of Sharpsburg notes that the City Hotel was located at the northeast corner of the Public Square during the period between 1900 and 1920. W.J. Highbarger was the proprietor. It also notes a McGraw Hotel on the town square with J.R. McGraw as the proprietor. The 1922 Sanborn notes the structure a three-story brick dwelling encased in stone. That map also indicates a stone outhouse at the northeast corner of the house, a henhouse at the middle of the lot and a large barn at the rear of the property. was noted as 301 East Main. Today the house is called the McGraw/Shay House. The 1962 brochure indicates that it was used as an antique shop and Civil War museum at that time.

The building is within the Western Maryland Geographic Organization, the Development Period of Agricultural-Industrial Transition, and falls within the Historic Period Theme of Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Community Planning.

Prepared by Julie Mueller, June 1991

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